

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims 1, 11 and 21 as shown below:

1. (Currently Amended) A method that enables one to give feedback on an electronic writing created with a word processing software by another seeking said feedback and wherein said writing being displayable using said software on a video display of a computer system, said method comprising the steps of:

developing a set of editorial icons ~~markings~~ that are insertable into said writing,
selecting from said set of editorial icons ~~markings~~ a icon ~~marking~~ to be inserted into said writing,

inserting said icon ~~marking~~ into said electronic writing so as to create a version of said electronic writing that has inserted into said version at least one of said insertable editorial icons ~~markings~~,

wherein each of said inserted editorial icons ~~markings~~ communicates information, regarding a portion of said writing in proximity to said icon's ~~marking~~'s insertion point, chosen from the group consisting of information on the writing's punctuation, capitalization, italicization, grammar, word usage, content or form, and

saving information pertaining to said inserted icon ~~marking~~ in said computer system so as to establish a database that documents the use of said inserted icons ~~markings~~ in said writing.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

compiling summary statistics for said saved icons ~~markings~~ that communicate information pertaining to the use of said icons ~~markings~~ in said writing.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of:

filtering said inserted icons ~~markings~~ so that only a specified portion of such icons ~~markings~~ remain in said writing when it is returned to its writer.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

hyperlinking said inserted icon ~~marking~~ to a website that exists on a network of linked computers.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of:

hyperlinking said inserted icon ~~marking~~ to a website that exists on a network of linked computers.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 3, further comprising the step of:

hyperlinking said inserted icon ~~marking~~ to a website that exists on a network of linked computers.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 2, wherein:

said compiled summary statistics communicate information selected from the group consisting of information pertaining to: (a) specified skills that said writer would need to focus upon in order to improve said writer's writing skills, (b) for a series of said writings by the same writer, said writer's progress towards improvement in those areas identified by said inserted icons ~~markings~~ as needing improvement, (c) for a collection of writings by a group of writers who are being instructed as a group, said group's general areas denoted by said inserted icons ~~markings~~ as needing improvement, and (d) for a series of writings by said group, said group's progress towards improvement in those areas identified by said inserted icons ~~markings~~ as needing improvement.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 4, wherein:

said website having information chosen from the group consisting of detailed explanations of said icons ~~markings~~ and exercises that one can undertake in order to strengthen those writing skills which are denoted by said inserted icons ~~markings~~ as representing areas in which said writer needs improvement.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 1, wherein:

said inserted icon ~~marking~~ having an associated editorial comment that is insertable in said writing.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computable readable memory that enables one to give feedback on an electronic writing created with a word processing software by another seeking said feedback and wherein said writing being displayable using said software on a video display of a computer system, said computer program product comprising:

a set of editorial icons ~~markings~~ that are insertable into said writing,

means for displaying said set of icons ~~markings~~ on said video display,

means for selecting from said set of editorial icons ~~markings~~ a icon ~~marking~~ to be inserted into said writing,

means for inserting said icon ~~marking~~ into said electronic writing so as to create a version of said electronic writing that has inserted into said version at least one of said insertable editorial icons ~~markings~~,

wherein each of said inserted editorial icons ~~markings~~ communicates information, regarding a portion of said writing in proximity to said icon's ~~marking~~'s insertion point, chosen from the group consisting of information on the writing's punctuation, capitalization, italicization, grammar, word usage, content or form, and

means for saving information pertaining to said inserted icon ~~marking~~ in said computer system so as to establish a database that documents the use of said inserted icons ~~markings~~ in said writing.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 11, further comprising:

means for compiling summary statistics for said saved icons ~~markings~~ that communicate information pertaining to the use of said icons ~~markings~~ in said writing.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 12, further comprising:

means for filtering said inserted icons ~~markings~~ so that only a specified portion of such icons ~~markings~~ remain in said writing when it is returned to its writer.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 11, further comprising:

means for hyperlinking said inserted icon marking to a website that exists on a network of linked computers.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 12, further comprising:

means for hyperlinking said inserted icon marking to a website that exists on a network of linked computers.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 13, further comprising:

means for hyperlinking said inserted icon marking to a website that exists on a network of linked computers.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 12, wherein:

said compiled summary statistics communicate information selected from the group consisting of information pertaining to: (a) specified skills that said writer would need to focus upon in order to improve said writer's writing skills, (b) for a series of said writings by the same writer, said writer's progress towards improvement in those areas identified by said inserted icons markings as needing improvement, (c) for a collection of writings by a group of writers who are being instructed as a group, said group's general areas denoted by said inserted icons markings as needing improvement, and (d) for a series of writings by said group, said group's progress towards improvement in those areas identified by said inserted icons markings as needing improvement.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 14, wherein:

said website having information chosen from the group consisting of detailed explanations of said icons markings and exercises that one can undertake in order to strengthen those writing skills which are denoted by said inserted icons markings as representing areas in which said writer needs improvement.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 11, wherein:

said inserted icon ~~marking~~ having an associated editorial comment that is insertable in said writing.

21. (Currently Amended) A system including processor, memory, video display and input device that enables one to give feedback on an electronic writing created with a word processing software by another seeking said feedback and wherein said writing being displayable using said software on said video display, comprising:

a set of editorial icons ~~markings~~ that are insertable into said writing,
 means for displaying said set of icons ~~markings~~ on said video display,
 means for selecting from said set of editorial icons ~~markings~~ a icon ~~marking~~ to be inserted into said writing,

means for inserting said icon ~~marking~~ into said electronic writing so as to create a version of said electronic writing that has inserted into said version at least one of said insertable editorial icons ~~markings~~,

wherein each of said inserted editorial icons ~~markings~~ communicates information, regarding a portion of said writing in proximity to said icon's ~~marking~~'s insertion point, chosen from the group consisting of information on the writing's punctuation, capitalization, italicization, grammar, word usage, content or form, and

means for saving information pertaining to said inserted icon ~~marking~~ in said computer system so as to establish a database that documents the use of said inserted icons ~~markings~~ in said writing.

22. (Currently Amended) A system providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 21, further comprising:

means for compiling summary statistics for said saved icons ~~markings~~ that communicate information pertaining to the use of said icons ~~markings~~ in said writing.

23. (Currently Amended) A system for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 22, further comprising:

means for filtering said inserted icons ~~markings~~ so that only a specified portion of such icons ~~markings~~ remain in said writing when it is returned to its writer.

24. (Currently Amended) A system for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 21, further comprising:

means for hyperlinking said inserted icon marking to a website that exists on a network of linked computers.

25. (Currently Amended) A system for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 22, further comprising:

means for hyperlinking said inserted icon marking to a website that exists on a network of linked computers.

26. (Currently Amended) A system for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 23, further comprising:

means for hyperlinking said inserted icon marking to a website that exists on a network of linked computers.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A system for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 22, wherein:

said compiled summary statistics communicate information selected from the group consisting of information pertaining to: (a) specified skills that said writer would need to focus upon in order to improve said writer's writing skills, (b) for a series of said writings by the same writer, said writer's progress towards improvement in those areas identified by said inserted icons markings as needing improvement, (c) for a collection of writings by a group of writers who are being instructed as a group, said group's general areas denoted by said inserted icons markings as needing improvement, and (d) for a series of writings by said group, said group's progress towards improvement in those areas identified by said inserted icons markings as needing improvement.

29. (Currently Amended) A system for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 24, wherein:

said website having information chosen from the group consisting of detailed explanations of said icons markings and exercises that one can undertake in order to strengthen those writing skills which are denoted by said inserted icons markings as representing areas in which said writer needs improvement.

30. (Currently Amended) A system for providing feedback on an electronic writing as recited in claim 21, wherein:

said inserted icon marking having an associated editorial comment that is insertable in said writing.